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Russia Reported Holding Lines

Iceland Occupation Called Defense Move

Ratifying Pact of Friendship Between Turkey and Nazis



Turkish and German officials are shown in this radiophoto from Berlin as they ratified the treaty of friendship between the two nations. Left to right (seated) they are Cevad Aekalin, special Turkish envoy; Haasev Gericke, Turkish ambassador to Germany; Baron Ernst Weizsaecker, German secretary of state; and Ernst Woermann, Nazi under-secretary of state.

Action Said To Thwart Nazi Plans

Administration Circles Say Germany Planned Vast Pincers Movement on Britain's Supply Lines Across Atlantic.

Washington, July 8.—(AP)—The occupation of Iceland by United States armed forces was described in administration circles today as a step intended to thwart a vast German pincers movement on Great Britain's independent supply lines.

This pincers movement, extending from the equator to the arctic, would have as its immediate objective the cutting off of Britain from all overseas supplies, including lend lease shipments, but an informed military authority pointed out that an operation of such magnitude constituted a logical prelude to an attempt to invade England.

Should an invasion be successful, he said, the result would be in a position for a pincers campaign against the western hemisphere. The threat President Roosevelt mentioned yesterday when he notified Congress that United States naval forces had landed in Iceland.

Administration supporters generally seemed to take this long range view, for they spoke of the occupation as a defense precaution and endorsed it as such. Opposition legislators, however, were apprehensive and voiced fear that the action might lead to war.

The move—and its full significance—was the big topic of discussion in Congress and promised to remain so for some time. Specially, much interest attached to President Roosevelt's order to the navy to keep the sea lanes between Iceland and the United States "free of all hostile activity or threat thereof."

In such a part of this vast area has been a landing ground for Nazi surface and submarine raiders, the question arose whether the order meant "you may fire when ready, Godley" where, until now, action was discouraged.

CIVILIAN DEFENSE CHAIRMEN APPOINTED

Raleigh, July 8.—(AP)—T. S. Johnson, director of civilian defense in North Carolina, announced today that 14 persons had accepted appointment as county civilian defense council chairmen.

By the end of the week, Johnson said, he hoped to have chairmen appointed in all of the 100 counties of the state.

Wheeler Censured

Montana Senator Charged With Revealing Military Secret on Iceland Occupation.

Washington, July 8.—(AP)—Stephen Early, White House secretary, today labeled as a leak a statement a news dispatch from London which had this to say of the disclosure by Senator Wheeler, Democrat, Montana, that United States forces would occupy Iceland.

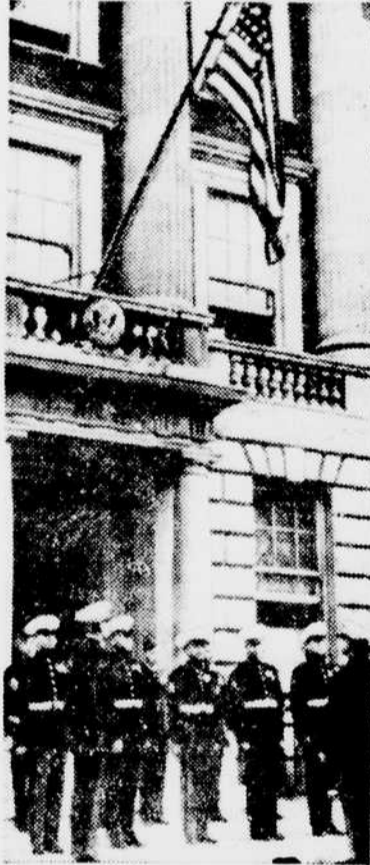
"The Germans might have taken advantage of that confusion and British troops as well as United States Marines and sailors might have been involved in resultant slaughter."

Wheeler said last week he had information that the occupation was to come soon; it was not officially announced until yesterday.

The dispatch said the British were angry because Wheeler had given away a military secret involving British troops.

To a press conference question as to whether he thought the mention of possible slaughter was a fair statement of the situation, Early replied, "I think that is right."

Marines in London



C. P. Cablephoto

United States Marines stand guard in front of the U. S. Embassy in London for the first time. Sixty-three officers and men of the Marine Corps, including eleven from the 1st Marine Division, were reported to have been sent to the British capital to act as fire wardens.

Axis Warns Of Danger

Fascist Commentator Sees Iceland Occupation As Intervention by United States.

(By The Associated Press). While Britons cheered the landing of U. S. naval forces in Iceland as making the Atlantic an "Anglo-American lake," axis commentators warned today of danger ahead.

Rome political circles said the American move in Iceland "constitutes real and true intervention in European matters."

One highly-placed fascist commentator said "doing this, President Roosevelt has assumed the grave responsibility of sending his ships into a blockade zone." He declared the action was a violation of the President's promise "to send American forces or troops outside the continent."

German propagandists referred to comment on the arrival of American armed forces in Iceland, but said a statement might be issued within the next 24 hours.

In Tokyo, a Japanese newspaper said the move was "a clear participation in the war." Doing the authoritative Japanese news agency, said it meant that the United States has now entered the zone of hostilities as defined by Germany and that it held "unmistakable possibilities of further aggression in the future between the United States and Germany."

Strike Talks Are Resumed

(By The Associated Press). Disarming, possibly a powder workers and their employers agreed to resume contract negotiations today at the Abbeville plant of the Western Cartridge Company, which leads \$8,468,000 in government munitions orders.

While the national defense production board won the approval of company and union officials for resumption of the bargaining at the strike-threatened factory, there were other important developments in the defense labor situation.

1. The War department estimated that only 144,620 man-days had been lost on Army contracts due to strikes in the last half of June, compared with 377,700 lost in the first half of the month.

2. The office of production management announced that labor contracts for August 18.

Red Counter Attacks Net Heavy Loss

Hitler's Field Headquarters Reports Tersely That "Operations on Eastern Front Are Proceeding on Schedule."

(By The Associated Press). Soviet Red Armies were reported holding the Germans at bay along a 600-mile front of river defenses today out in front of the main Stalin Line and crushing repeated Nazi attempts to break through en route to Moscow.

A Russian war bulletin placed the scene of the heaviest fighting on a line running almost due north and south between the Latvian frontier and the Bessarabian border.

The communication said Soviet troops clashed with German tanks and motorized forces in the Ukraine sector of Novgorod Volynski and further south struck in "a decisive counter attack on the flank and rear of the enemy," annihilating two Nazi infantry regiments.

The Soviet high command said the Germans had been routed in a series of attempts to storm the Dnepr river in a drive toward Moscow, but conceded that on the northern front the Nazis had approached within 75 miles of Leningrad.

Tersely, Adolf Hitler's field headquarters made this lone comment on the 17-day old invasion: "Operations on the eastern front are proceeding on schedule."

In past campaigns, German communications have been similarly brief when huge scale operations were in a developing state.

The Russians declared the Germans were suffering enormous casualties and that gains along the 2,000-mile front were slight.

By contrast, the Berlin radio re-

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Syrian Cities Are Bombed

Cairo, July 8.—(AP)—Widespread bombing operations in Syria overnight were announced today by the RAF, which is backing up British-De Gaulle land forces said to be progressing in three sectors of the French-occupied state.

Heavy bombers attacked the railway station at Aleppo where bombs were seen exploding on tracks and station buildings; the communication said "At Beirut, direct hits were made on fuel tanks and large fires followed."

Both these key towns are in the paths of advancing invading columns and both had been raided also the previous night. Advances on three fronts and successful mopping up operations south of Damour near Beirut had been reported by the British high command.

Nazi Drive Said Halted

Military Circles In Vichy Say Progress Virtually Halted For Four Days.

Vichy, July 8.—(AP)—Military circles in Vichy reported today that the German drive against the Stalin Line had been virtually stopped for four full days.

These circles indicated that German losses were enormous.

They listed as one of the reasons for stopping the offensive the necessity for re-grouping German units.

Other reasons for the halt, they said, were the need to reorganize supply lines and the guerrilla resistance in the rear of German columns. Even women and children were joining in these guerrilla attacks, they said.

It was reported in Vichy that the Germans were considerably behind schedule in their operations against Russia, which the military sources said were supposed to last 50 days, ending August 18.

DEFENSE BILL TO PASS SOON

RAF Makes Heavy Raids

Bombardment of Objectives in Northern France Without Letup in 24 Hours.

London, July 8.—(AP)—British warplanes shuttled by the hundreds over the English channel today in an offensive against German objectives in northern France which has continued without letup for the past 24 hours.

Heavy bombers escorted by fighters stormed steadily in the attack. It was a powerful continuation of widespread thrusts overnight against targets in western Germany, Holland, Belgium and France.

Observers at a southeast coast town reported that the sound of the explosions in the operations against France, begun at the channel coast, were growing fainter and apparently the royal air force bombers were moving farther inland to land.

German-made sharp raid against Southampton during the night, causing some casualties and considerable damage to the business district. Other points in the south and southeast were bombed and the British said

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GERMAN INFANTRY IN BITTER BATTLE

Berlin, July 8.—(AP)—German infantry was believed in Berlin tonight to be engaged in the bitterest fighting yet encountered in the assault upon Russia's Stalin Line defenses, and there were reports that fresh troops were preparing a new surprise for the Soviet defenders.

23,519,000 Acres Planted To Cotton Crop

Washington, July 8.—(AP)—Cotton in cultivation in the United States on July 1 was estimated today by the Agriculture department to be 23,519,000 acres. That is 5.4 per cent less than in cultivation a year ago and 28.6 per cent less than the ten-year 1930-39 average area in cultivation on July 1.

Should abandonment from natural causes this year equal the ten-year average abandonment, which was 1.9 per cent, an acreage of 23,102,000 would be indicated for harvest, the department said.

Cotton in cultivation a year ago was 24,871,000 acres, of which 23,861,000 acres were picked, yielding 252.5 pounds of cotton to the acre and a total production of 12,566,000 bales.

A forecast by the Agriculture department

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Earth Slide Imperils Town In Virginia Mining Section

St. Charles, Va., July 8.—(AP)—A crawling stream of earth 50 feet wide and 15 feet high at points pushed down through one section of the Bonny Blue mining camp on Little Black Mountain last night, bowling over and crushing houses in its way. Six houses had been demolished by early today and others were threatened.

The tremendous pressure of waste slate from the Blue Diamond Company's working, piled on the side of the mountain on the Virginia-Kentucky border, pressed the ram-soiled

earth along a path which extended about 2,000 feet.

Crews of mine workers sought to halt the slide by ditching water from it. The ground has been soaked by nearly a week of rains.

The earth movement began late yesterday and drove into the Jack's Branch Hollow in which were approximately 50 houses. Those on the upper end were rolled over and splintered, the wreckage of one being carried for some 200 feet before crews could remove it.

The dwellings were vacated before the earth's onward movement.

Court Oath For Byrnes

South Carolinian Takes Oath of Office As Member of United States Supreme Court.

Washington, July 8.—(AP)—James F. Byrnes was sworn in at the White House today as an associate justice of the Supreme Court. Before an assembly of officials, friends and members of his family, the former senator from South Carolina took the oath of office in President Roosevelt's office. The oath was administered by an old friend, Chief Justice Charles E. Hughes of the United States court of claims.

Byrnes rested his hand on a Bible open to the 82nd Psalm, where it reads:

"Defend the poor and the fatherless, do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and the needy, rid them out of the hand of the wicked."

Among those watching was Attorney General Robert H. Jackson, whose appointment to the Supreme Court was confirmed by the Senate yesterday.

President Roosevelt, in a brief, impromptu talk at the ceremony, expressed regret that Byrnes was leaving the Senate but said the court would be "honored and strengthened."

FDR To Ask More Money

Washington, July 8.—(AP)—Informed congressional circles heard reports today that President Roosevelt soon would ask Congress for additional defense appropriations totaling as high as five billion dollars.

These sources said that several billion dollars would be asked for Army expansion, another billion for the Navy, and a lump sum for supplemental aid to Great Britain.

Senate May Cause Delay

Measure Provides For Deferment of Men Over 28 Years of Age and To Prevent Work Stoppages in Defense Plants.

Washington, July 8.—(AP)—Sponsor of double-billed legislation to defer men over 28 from selective service and to empower the administration to prevent work stoppages in defense plants, predicted today that Congress would complete action on the bill within two weeks.

Some delay was foreseen, however, in adjusting differences in the Senate on both phases of the proposed law.

The Senate passed a bill last month authorizing discretionary deferment of men who were 28 or over on July 1, 1941, and giving President Roosevelt power to raise or lower and operate strike and defense factories.

But the House measure called up for debate at noon would make the selective service deferment mandatory and provide a way to block any possible attempt to prevent willing workers from returning to their jobs in struck factories holding defense orders.

As members returned from holiday vacations to vote on these questions a sharp controversy continued over proposals to keep factories, national guardmen and reservists in service longer than the present "selective service" period and to remove the strain which rests on a size of the selective and guardmen to the west-ern hemisphere.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Partly cloudy with local showers this afternoon and tonight and possibly in east and extreme south portions Wednesday; mild temperatures.

Extended weather forecast for the period from 7:30 p. m. July 8 to 7:30 p. m. July 12.—Occasional local showers will continue throughout period amounts mostly moderate but heavy in spots, mild temperatures.

NO PAGEANT TONIGHT

Because of the heavy rain this afternoon, the final performance of the Centennial "Century of Progress" pageant, scheduled for tonight on the high school athletic field, WILL NOT be undertaken. Centennial officials announced late this afternoon. Water was standing on the field and there was no probability of its being absorbed sufficiently to present the pageant.

The committee announced that another effort will be made to give the final performance tomorrow night at the usual hour, and urged the public to turn out in large numbers and also that the pageant cast in full be present.